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ARTZ 108A.03: Visual Language - 3-D Foundations

Sarah E. Tancred

University of Montana - Missoula

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The University of Montana School of Art
Visual Language: ARTZ 108A 3D Design, 3 Credits
Spring Semester 2014
Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:10-10:00

"Nothing is a mistake. There is no win and no fail, there's only make."-John Cage

Instructor: Sarah Tancred

Contact: sarah.tancred@umontana.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays 10:10-11:10, Art Annex Room 128

Course Description (from UM Catalog): Basic three-dimensional course for both general education and beginning art students and a prerequisite to beginning sculpture and beginning ceramics. Emphasis will be placed on conceptualization and formal development of the 3-D object in the areas of form, mass, scale, texture, space, and color.

Course Objectives (My Words): The objective of this course is to provide students with the technical and conceptual abilities to execute his or her thoughts and ideas through various mediums used within the three-dimensional art realm. Students will be exposed to historical and contemporary artists, practices, and writings. This course will also focus on technical processes including but not limited to: concrete, plaster, clay, acrylic, fibers, and metals. Formal issues will be considered, however I am more interested in a thoughtful execution of your ideas through research, readings, and sketchbook assignments. With that being said, I am not interested in forcing my personal ideas and/or beliefs onto you as an instructor. I care about **YOUR** thoughts/ideas and what you have to bring to the table.

Required Materials: Students are required to have a bound sketchbook and some kind of writing utensil. Most of the materials used will be provided, however depending on the project, you will be required to purchase/find/acquire additional materials. I will give you adequate time to prepare for this.

Course Outline: There will be **five** main projects completed this semester. Since this is a process based, time intensive course, you must come to class, use class time wisely, and spend at least 5 hours per week outside of class in order to complete your assignments. I know this sounds intense, but I promise you will feel more confident in your abilities and finished projects if you put the time into them.

Sketchbook Assignments: Keeping an active sketchbook is an essential tool used in the creative process. You will be given sketchbook assignments before each project that I will then discuss with you individually. Talking about ideas is great, but you will find that

translating these ideas through visual language will help you will help with problem solving and moving through ideas efficiently. (10 points each)

Journal Entries: I will provide you with readings regarding contemporary art, criticism, and artistic practices throughout the semester that you will respond to in your sketchbooks. The response should be approximately one page in length (hand-written). You will hand them in at the beginning of class and we will then discuss the readings as a group. (10 points each)

*All readings will be posted on Moodle

Lectures/Community Events: The University of Montana and the Missoula community offer visiting artist lectures/workshops and other art related events. You will be required to attend **2** of these (lecture, workshop, or event) and write a 1-page essay (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font) about your experience. (20 points each)

Resources:

FrontierSpace (Alternative Gallery): frontierspacemissoula.weebly.com

The Brink Galley: thebrinkgallery.com

The University of Montana School of Art Blog: umartdepartment.wordpress.com

Missoula Art Museum: www.missoulaartmuseum.org

University Center Gallery: life.umt.edu/uc/ucsi/uc_gallery/

Montana Museum of Art and Culture: <http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum/>

The Clay Studio of Missoula: theclaystudioofmissoula.org

Grading

Grades will be based on a point system.

Assignment Point Total:

Project 1: 50 points

Project 2: 50 points

Project 3: 50 points

Project 4: 50 points

Project 5: 50 points

Sketchbook: 50 points

Participation (discussions, journal, writing assignments): 50 points

Total: 350 points

Late Work

15 points will be subtracted from all late work. If you are having an issue, please speak with me as soon as possible so I can help you.

Attendance Policies:

- It is beneficial to you and your creative process to attend every class
- Roll will be taken at the end of class via sign in sheet.
- Altering or forging names on the sign-in sheet will be reported to the University and as a transgression of the student conduct code.
- You are permitted unexcused 2 absences without penalty. These days should be saved for unexpected illnesses or emergencies. Thereafter, your grade will be lowered one half (1/2) letter grade per subsequent absence (3 absences=A-, 4 absences=B+, etc.). 6 absences will result in an automatic failing grade (F) for the course.
- Leaving class early will result in one absence. Excessive lateness 3 times will result in one absence.
- Excused absences include either a death in the immediate family or being ill to the point of seeking medical attention. If this is the case, you will need proper documentation.
- Unless it is one of the reasons stated above, I do not need to know why you missed class. Please do not email me after the fact and explain why you were unable to come.
- It is really disappointing to have to fail a talented student because of absences, and I really do not want to have to do that. Please do yourself a favor and come to class! 😊.

Additional Class Time Requirements:

- When you attend this class, you will be working. If you are unprepared, sleeping, or simply refusing to participate you will be asked to leave and will be counted as absent for the day.
- The sculpture studio is a shared space, which means there are other classes that take place in it. You are expected to respect this. This means you are required to clean up after yourselves and respect the studio equipment. The last 10 or 15 minutes of class will be used to clean up (cleaning off tables, throwing away trash, sweeping floors, etc.). I will not be cleaning up after you, so please be prepared for this.

Required studio time outside of class time per week: 5 hours of studio homework time, in addition to the scheduled class time for every 3-credit studio art course.

Studio Access: The sculpture studio will be available to you outside of class at specific times during the week. These hours will be posted on the shop door.

General Sculpture Lab Safety Rules

1. Only students currently enrolled in a university art course are allowed to use the sculpture lab.
2. Any person outside of sculpture or ceramics must check in with either the sculpture professor or lab technician.
3. No visitors inside the tool areas.
4. Know the location of the two first aid areas and two fire extinguishers.
5. No open-toed shoes allowed in sculpture area.
6. During any work in progress every student must wear approved safety eyewear and if appropriate, hearing protection.
7. Tools must be returned to the tool room immediately after use.
8. Condense all hoses and cords used during your session.
9. No tools leave the sculpture lab or yard.
10. All guards must remain on power tools exactly like they arrive from the factory.
11. Report any tool deficiencies or malfunctions immediately.
12. All hazardous or vaporous materials must be handled outdoors.
13. Each area is ventilated, make sure fans are on even for the smallest job.
14. Leave floors clean, tables clear and sinks drained.
15. Should there be an injury, no matter how small, immediately consult the sculpture professor or lab technician.
16. Never work when you are tired or if you have consumed *any* amount of alcohol.
17. Of course, there is absolutely no drinking, smoking or eating in the building.
18. If you are injured at night during the open shop hours, inform the work-study student who is on duty and they will call the sculpture professor.
19. The work-study students are here at night for your safety, and they can help you work with tools safely. However, they will not do your project for you.
20. Take breaks to ensure overall awareness.

*** Anyone in violation of these rules may loose their lab privileges.**

Emergency Contacts

Campus Emergency: 4000

Missoula City Emergency: 9-911

Campus security: 6131

General Facility Emergency: 4181 or 5704

*Phone located by entrance on wall.

Additional Safety Concerns

- No creatures or children will be allowed in studios during class time or open studio times.
- No food or open beverage containers will be allowed in Art Department facilities when the creation or art is in progress
- Pick-up of artwork must take place prior to the scheduled exam day or the last class period. Pieces remaining after this time will be discarded. Artwork may not be left in the Art Office.

Students with special needs and/or disabilities: If you have any access concerns, special needs, and/or learning disabilities, medical conditions, and/or physical impairments that may impede the successful completion of this course, please contact the office of Disability Services for Students (DSS) at x. 2243 (Lommasson Center 154) and speak with me as soon as possible.

Course fees

Course fees are utilized to provide consumable supplies for individual use in specific courses only.

Withdrawing From Class

The last day to drop a course with no grade is by the 15th day of the semester. During days 16-30 a course may be dropped with a "W" grade. On day 31 to the end of the semester courses may be dropped with either a "WP" or a "WF" by petition only. Please work closely with your advisor. Sometimes by error or design it is better to drop a course and retake it, then it is to risk failure. Please note: if a student is not in attendance on the 2nd day of the semester, the instructor may drop a student in order to open up a seat/place for another student.

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or the disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSSA/Index.cfm/page/1321.